**PICO Questions Assignment**

**PICO** is a format physicians can use for converting clinical scenarios to **researchable** and **answerable** questions to provide evidence-based care of patients.

* **P** = Patient, Population and/or Problem
* **I** = Intervention, treatment, Prognostic factor, and/or Exposure (Which specific are you considering?)
* **C** = Comparison and/or Control (What is the main alternative to the above?)
* **O** = Outcome (What are you trying to accomplish, improve, or effect?)

PICO questions are used when you are looking for evidence to support current best practice or when you have a question about how best to take care of a specific patient, and include Therapy, Diagnosis, Prognosis, Harm/Exposure and Screening questions. **The goal: create a question that can be researched and answered.**

To create an answerable question, each element of PICO must be specified.

P: 15 year old males with no other known medical or psychiatric problems

I: Treatment with selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs)

C: Cognitive behavioral therapy

O: Reduced incidence of suicide

Here is the question related to the above scenario:

*For an adolescent with depression, does treatment with SSRIs result in lower incidence of suicides than cognitive behavioral therapy?*

**Generate a short list of search terms.** Example from the PICO question above: depression *and* adolescent *and* SSRI *and* CBT. After an initial search, those may be expanded.

**Find an answer.** Remember, the Library has a site devoted to [EBM Resources](http://med-fsu.libguides.com/EBM) you can use for this task.

Complete the worksheet below.

Use the following naming convention for saving your Word file: Lastname\_Firstname\_PICO.docx

**Submit your assignment: *where***

**Due no later than: *when***

**Educational Prescription Worksheet**

1. Under what circumstances did this patient case occur? (Case or lecture in curriculum or real patient at preceptor’s office. HIPAA considerations: no real names, DOB, etc.)
2. Clinical scenario that prompted your question:
3. Each of the PICO elements defined:

P:

I:

C:

O:

1. Your specific question:
2. List of search words you used (4-5)
3. List of resources you used to search for an answer, and the approximate time you spent searching each resource, until you either found a satisfactory answer or changed resource.

First source searched: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Time to answer or decision to try different source (if needed): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Second source searched: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Time to answer or decision to try different source (if needed): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Third source searched: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Time to answer or decision to try different source (if needed): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Fourth source searched: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Time to answer or decision to try different source (if needed): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Total time spent \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**# sites used** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **Your Answer:** (be brief!)